

## CLAIMS

1                   1.     A method in a computer system for selection of a resource, the method  
2     comprising:  
3                   providing a resource requirement indicating target attributes of a target  
4     resource;  
5                   receiving a plurality of offers to provide a candidate resource, each  
6     candidate resource having candidate attributes;  
7                   for each offered candidate resource, generating a match rating between  
8     the candidate attributes of the candidate resource and the target attributes of the target  
9     resource; and  
10                  selecting a candidate resource based on the generated match ratings.

1                   2.     The method of claim 1 including receiving the resource requirement  
2     from a consumer of the resource.

1                   3.     The method of claim 1 wherein the offers are received from a suppliers  
2     of candidate resources.

1                   4.     The method of claim 1 wherein the resources are people and the  
2     attributes include skills of the person and hourly rate.

1                   5.     The method of claim 1 wherein the computer system is a server  
2     connected to the Internet.

1                   6.     A method in a computer system for conducting a reverse auction for  
2     services of people, the method comprising:  
3                   receiving an indication of requirements of a person from a consumer of  
4     services;

advertising the indicated requirements;  
 receiving a plurality of offers to provide a person;  
 generating a match rating for each offered person indication how well  
 that person meets the requirements; and  
 selecting an offered person based on the match ratings.

7. The method of claim 6 including selecting multiple offered persons  
 based on the match ratings.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein the requirements includes skills.

9. The method of claim 6 wherein the requirements include start date.

10. The method of claim 6 wherein the requirements includes reservation  
 date.

11. The method of claim 6 wherein the requirement includes pricing  
 information.

12. The method of claim 6 wherein the generating of the match rating  
 includes identifying how closely a person matches each requirement.

13. A method in a computer system for evaluating an offered resource, the  
 resource having attributes, each attribute having a resource value, the method comprising:  
 identifying target values for each attribute;  
 for each attribute, generating an attribute match rating indicating how  
 well the corresponding resource value matches the corresponding target value; and  
 combining the generated attribute match ratings to generate an overall  
 match rating for the offered resource.



- 1           14.    The method of claim 13 wherein the combining of the generated  
2   attribute match ratings includes applying a weight factor to each attribute match rating.
- 1           15.    The method of claim 13 wherein the resource is offered at a reverse  
2   auction.
- 1           16.    The method of claim 13 wherein the attributes include skills of a person.
- 1           17.    The method of claim 13 wherein the attributes include rate of a person.
- 1           18.    The method of claim 13 wherein the attributes include availability of a  
2   person.
- 1           19.    The method of claim 13 wherein the attributes include reservation of a  
2   person.
- 1           20.    A computer system for coordinating the providing of resources,  
2   comprising:  
3                    an auction component that receives resource requirements, that  
4   advertises the received resource requirements, that receives a description of a resource, that  
5   places a bid to provide the resource, and that selects those resources that most closely match  
6   the received resource requirements;  
7                    an interview component that coordinates the interviewing of the selected  
8   resource by the provider of the resource requirements;  
9                    a selection component that coordinates the selection of an interviewed  
10   resource; and  
11                   an accounting component that coordinates the submitting of bills  
12   provided by the selected resource.

1                    21.    The computer system of claim 20 wherein the computer system is a web  
2    server.

1                    22.    The computer system of claim 20 wherein the resources are people.

1                    23.    The computer system of claim 20 wherein the auction component rates  
2    how closely a resource matches the resource requirements.